

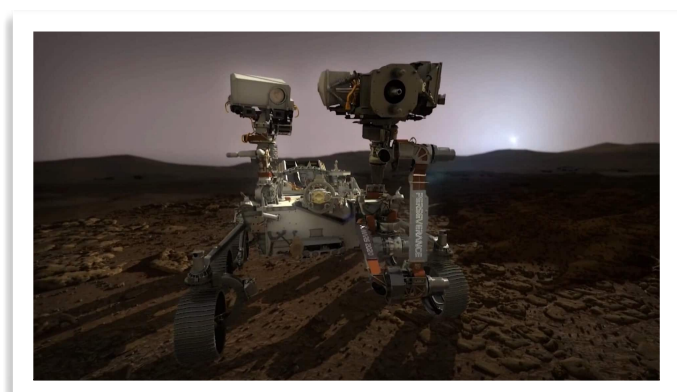
Atom's Cruciform. By Philip Wharton.

Artist's statement.

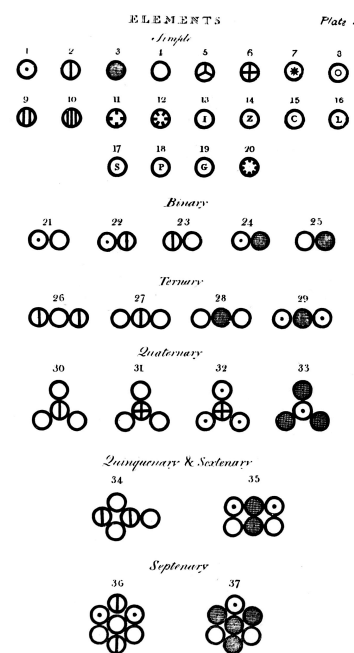
Do you believe our soul can keep up with the rapid pace of our “never-ending-further” to grasp the science behind all things?

At the outset of the COVID pandemic, I happened upon various atom sketches by Quaker, **John Dalton**, from 1808. His sketches set the foundation for Atom's Cruciform.

Later, I avidly followed NASA's Mars Perseverance rover on Mars with its high resolution pictures of the red planet.



<https://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020/multimedia/images/>



Sketches by John Dalton.

And throughout the pandemic, the world of science and faith stood firm, side by side with great resolve. And our “never-ending-further” continued because of this.

I'm guessing that from whatever planet (or space station) our scientific minds gaze out upon the heavens from, heaven it will always be. And we will be forever raised beyond ourselves.

Irrespective of how we may believe we came into existence, I'm sure we can all agree that it was not of our design.

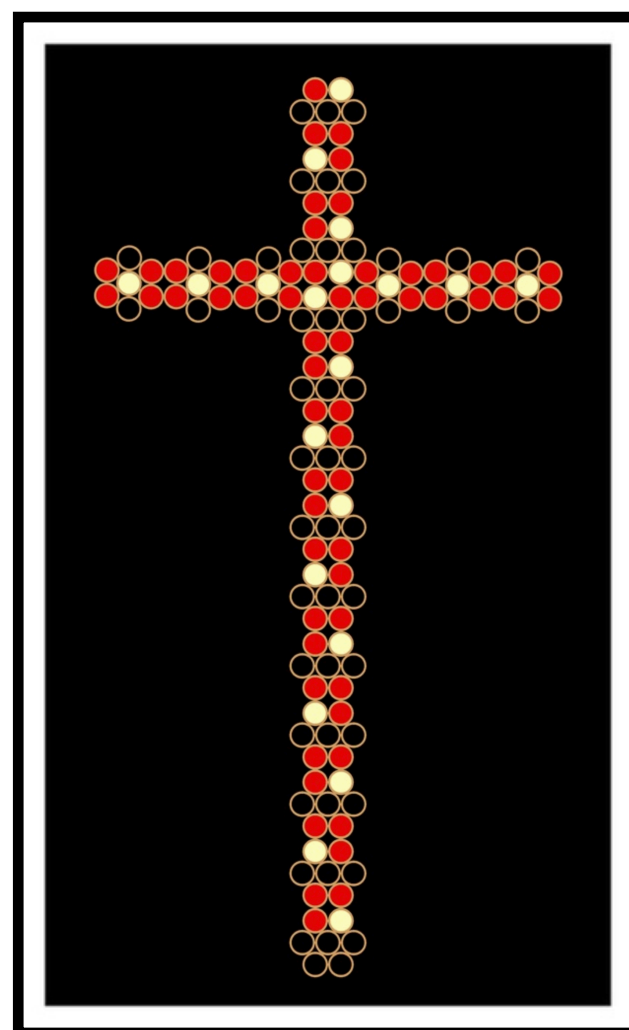
And without purpose?



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Atom's Cruciform

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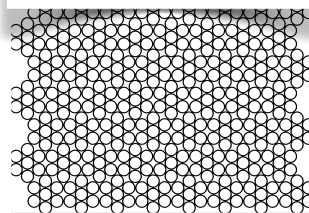
Additional information

Elements of the artist's statement are fashioned within Atom's Cruciform as follows. With references to colour, red is symbolic of life blood. White, the stars. And black, outer space.

With reference to colour arrangements, the white horizontal line with its blip of a heartbeat in the centre is symbolic of a heartbeat. The vertical zig-zag lines are meant to be symbolic of moving atoms and have you looking on likewise. And the groups of black are meant to mark the COVID 2 meter distancing rule. The two bottom white jewels in a line are symbolic of the crossed feet of Christ.

Mars and NASA's Mars Perseverance rover are also here by way of a single red jewel with a slight black smear across it. And finally, John Dalton by way of his atom motif.

I had spent much time playing around with alternative colour arrangements before settling on the final one. And to tell you the truth, I was torn between aesthetics and symbolism. Symbolism won.



In what way would your chosen colours and arrangements tell your story? Feel free to download a blank John Dalton atom motif sheet via the **Above QR CODE** to colour. And create your own unique meaning behind an artwork.

Atom's Cruciform is on loan courtesy of **Chetham's**
<https://library.chethams.com/whats-on/>



Library.

Very best wishes, Philip Wharton.